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| DATE | 1/23/13 | · . |
| HB 99 | | |

To: David Howard, Chair

Cary L. Smith, Vice-Chair

The House Human Services Committee

From: Patricia A. Hennessey, MS, RD, LN

701 E. 6th Ave., Helena, MT 59601

Date: January 22, 2013

Re: HB 98 and HB 99

For the record, I am Patricia A. Hennessey a Registered Dietitian and Licensed Nutritionist and former nutritionist for the Montana State Child and Adult Care Program and the Montana State WIC Program and now retired.

Ellyn Satter, MS, RD, CICSW, BCD, international authority on nutrition and feeding says, "Eating well is one of life's greatest pleasures.

Feeding is the cornerstone of nurturing.

Feeding ourselves as well as feeding our children is a legitimate and desperately important priority."

How very true!

Our Fact Sheet on Childhood Hunger in Montana notes that 1 in 7 struggles with hunger and I in 5 children struggle with hunger. We don't like to think of anyone, particularly children, suffering the pain of hunger... a very real pain with lasting effects as you read in our Fact Sheet.

Our Montana children deserve our support in their physical and academic growth if we expect them to be prepared for their future roles in life. Your unanimous passage of these two bills will help assure this.

Thank you.

Tatricia (1) Jennessey